

Mayor Sharpe James

59 Wilbur Avenue
Newark, New Jersey 07112

March 29, 1994

Dear Editor:

Newark is New Jersey's largest city with the largest problems, budget and fiscal challenges. I am the only candidate running for mayor with experience, knowledge, and demonstrated creativity in municipal government.

Through the strong partnerships developed between the local business community, community-based organizations, the clergy, the Newark Municipal Council, and most importantly the citizens of Newark, we as a city have been able to implement numerous innovative cost-effective measures that have been a major force behind our ongoing renaissance.

*** FIGHTING CRIME ***

We will not surrender to individuals who advocate lawlessness and a disrespect for the rights and property of others. President Clinton, recognizing Newark's commitment to public safety, selected our city as one of six cities nationwide to receive \$2 million to train and hire more police officers. Additionally, my administration is working with community groups to develop an application to be named one of six empowerment zones which would bring Newark \$100 million for social services, jobs, and further economic development.

*** LOWERING PROPERTY TAXES/SEWER AND WATER RATES ***

The James administration in attracting new ratables, downsizing government, and utilizing sound fiscal policies, was able to reduce property taxes in 1994 and reduce residents' water and sewer bills by five percent.

*** JOB TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT ***

Continued growth city-wide provides job opportunities and spurs the development of safe, decent affordable housing. Newark, with its improved bond rating, is primed for job opportunities with the long-awaited South Ward Industrial Park, the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, the rail link from downtown to the airport, the planned convention center and continued economic development in our neighborhoods. All these projects will enable the City's job market to continue to expand significantly.

"We've only just begun"

*** HOUSING ***

This surge of employment opportunities is in pace with the city's record construction of more than 3,000 units of new and rehabilitated housing through public and private initiatives. Every ward is undergoing revitalization with the construction and rehabilitation of market rate, low and moderate income housing. Additionally, the Newark Housing Authority is building 1,800 units of quality low rise public housing which is indistinguishable from other construction. We will build housing for the poor, but not poor housing.

*** EXPANDING RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL OFFERINGS ***

The on-going construction of the \$150 million New Jersey Performing Arts Center, the expansion and renovation of the Newark Museum and Public Library, the opening of a new roller skating rink, a refurbished olympic pool in the JFK recreational center, a new parking facility for Symphony Hall, two state of the art movie theater complexes, a proposed family bowling center and a renewed night life with jazz and supper clubs compliment the existing list of expanding recreational and cultural facilities Newark has to offer.

*** PROVIDING A QUALITY EDUCATION ***

Nevertheless, our highest priority must be to offer a quality education for our youth. We must adequately prepare our children for the stiff challenges of the future. They must learn and be able to compete in a local and global economy. In order to promote a quality education and bring crucial reform, I have recommended the "James Plan" in selecting members of the Board of Education.

*** EXPANDING HEALTH CARE SERVICES ***

We must continue to effectively combat our many social, financial, and urban woes. Newark, as an urban center, has taken great pride in its many programs and projects that address the numerous public health issues facing America today. The Newark Department of Health and Human Services has recently received funding for immunization clinics and TB Control programs. Monies were also received for AIDS treatment, research and education under the Ryan White Program.

Currently our health department is in the process of developing a state of the art computer tracking system that links the Bureau of Vital Statistics with the health department. We will continue to fight for full health services and care for our senior citizens.

My administration is unequivocally committed to Newark's continued city-wide renaissance.

Sincerely,

Sharpe James
Mayor

Please see the
official campaign
photo enclosed.